

Coin collector

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Carson City dollars on a final sale block

By Roger Boye

THE GENERAL Services Administration [GSA] is conducting its fifth [and probably last] public sale of silver dollars minted in the late 1800s in Carson City, Nev.

The Carson City dollars were discovered in 1964 in government vaults, and Congress authorized the GSA to sell them. About 1.4 million dollars are to be sold in this sale.

Some collectors have complained bitterly about nicked dollars sold as uncirculated in the first four government sales. Some of the dollars did not meet numismatic

standards for the "uncirculated" classification.

Other collectors say the sudden influx of thousands of dollars to the coin market could depress the market value of Carson City dollars.

The dollars are sold by the GSA thru a public mail bid with a preestablished minimum price set near their market price.

For example, in the current sale, 1883-CC "uncirculated" dollars have a set minimum bid of \$30. The 1880-CC minimum bid is \$60. Coins being sold in this sale are dated from 1879 to 1885, 1890 and 1891.

If fewer bids are received



Obverse [left] and reverse of 1879 Carson City dollar

than the total number of coins being sold for a particular date, all of the coins of that date will be sold at the minimum bid. Any amount paid over the minimum will be refunded.

Many of the Carson City dollars in the first four sales were sold at the minimum bid price.

The minimum bid prices set by the GSA for this fifth sale accurately reflect the current market prices. And, despite complaints of some

collectors about the nicked condition of some dollars, persons ordering coins from the GSA can be sure of receiving authentic coins.

If all of the dollars sell, this will be the last of the government Carson City dollar sales.

Bids must be submitted by June 30. Bid forms are available at some banks or can be obtained by writing Carson City Silver Dollars, Fort Mason, San Francisco, Cal. 94160.